



## Public health responses to the risks of climate variability and change in the United States

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### Abstract:

**OBJECTIVE:** Discuss issues related to the capacity of the United States to effectively adapt to current and future climate change. **METHODS:** Review literature on public health adaptation measures to reduce the burden of climate-sensitive health outcomes. **RESULTS:** Most health risks of concern with climate change already exist in the United States. Current interventions may need to be augmented or deployed in new regions to prevent additional climate change-related morbidity and mortality. Monitoring and surveillance systems will need to be modified to ensure programs remain effective under a changing climate. **CONCLUSIONS:** Explicit consideration of climate change is needed in the many programs and research activities within federal, state, and local agencies that are relevant to adaptation to ensure that they have maximum effectiveness in reducing future vulnerability to the projected health impacts of climate change.

**Source:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1097/JOM.0b013e31816fd67b>

### Resource Description

#### Early Warning System: ☒

resource focus on systems used to warn populations of high temperatures, extreme weather, or other elements of climate change to prevent harm to health

A focus of content

#### Exposure : ☒

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Air Pollution, Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Security, Precipitation, Temperature

**Air Pollution:** Ozone

**Extreme Weather Event:** Drought, Flooding

**Temperature:** Extreme Heat

#### Geographic Feature: ☒

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

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## **Geographic Location:**

resource focuses on specific location

United States

## **Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Adaption/Mitigation):**

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

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## **Health Impact:**

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease, Morbidity/Mortality, Respiratory Effect

**Infectious Disease:** Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, Vectorborne Disease

**Foodborne/Waterborne Disease:** General Foodborne/Waterborne Disease

**Vectorborne Disease:** General Vectorborne, Mosquito-borne Disease

**Mosquito-borne Disease:** Malaria, West Nile Virus

## **Medical Community Engagement:**

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

## **Mitigation/Adaptation:**

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation, Mitigation

## **Model/Methodology:**

type of model used or methodology development is a focus of resource

Outcome Change Prediction

**Population of Concern:** A focus of content

## **Population of Concern:**

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Elderly

## **Resource Type:**

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

## **Resilience:**

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capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

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## **Timescale:**

time period studied

Long-Term (>50 years)

## **Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:**

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content